WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   A method of generating an electronic report from a list view displaying data objects that each comprise a plurality of fields and corresponding attributes for the fields, the method comprising:

receiving a user selection of at least one object field of the displayed fields;

generating an output file that an external reporting application can use to generate a tabulated report, the tabulated report to include the attributes corresponding to the selected at least one object field; and

launching the external reporting application and generating the tabulated report with the attributes corresponding to the selected at least one object field.

2.   The method of claim 1 further comprising receiving a user selection of the external reporting application.

3.   The method of claim 2 wherein the user selection of the external reporting application is selected from the group consisting of Microsoft® Excel and HTML.

4.   The method of claim 1 further comprising displaying a view of the list view and wherein the tabulated report is triggered from the view of the list view.

5.   The method of claim 4 wherein the data objects for the list view are retrieved from a database according to a search feature prior to displaying the view of the list view.

6.   The method of claim 1 wherein the output file includes the selected at least one object field and the corresponding attributes.

7.   The method of claim 1 wherein the output file is an ActiveX Data Object Recordset.

8.   The method of claim 1 wherein generating the output file that the external reporting application can use to generate the tabulated report further comprises transferring the output file to a reporting-tool-specific interface component capable of plug-and-play interaction with the external reporting application.

9.   The method of claim 1 wherein the launched external reporting application generates the tabulated report.

10.   Computer-readable medium with program instructions stored thereon that when executed perform the following functions to generate an electronic report from a computer user interface list view displaying data objects that each comprise fields and corresponding attributes for the fields:

receives a user selection of at least one object field of the displayed object fields;

generates an output file that an external reporting application can use to generate a tabulated report, the tabulated report to include the attributes corresponding to the selected at least one object field; and

launches the external reporting application and generates the tabulated report with the attributes corresponding to the selected at least one object field.

11.   The computer-readable medium of claim 10 wherein the program instructions when executed further performs the function of receiving a user selection of the external reporting application.

12.   The computer-readable medium of claim 11 wherein the user selection of the external reporting application is selected from the group consisting of Microsoft® Excel and HTML.

13.   The computer-readable medium of claim 10 wherein:
the program instructions when executed further performs the function of displaying a view of the list view; and
the tabulated report is triggered from the view of the list view.

14.   The computer-readable medium of claim 13 wherein the data objects for the list view are retrieved from a database according to a search feature prior to displaying the view of the list view.

15.   The computer-readable medium of claim 10 wherein the output file includes the selected at least one object field and the corresponding attributes.

16.   The computer-readable medium of claim 10 wherein the output file is an ActiveX Data Object Recordset.

17.   The computer-readable medium of claim 10 wherein generating the output file that the external reporting application can use to generate the tabulated report further comprises transferring the output file to a reporting-tool-

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specific interface component capable of plug-and-play interaction with the external reporting application.

18.   The computer-readable medium of claim 10 wherein the launched external reporting application generates the tabulated report.